(ग) और (घ) अनुमान है कि वर्ष 1991–92 में अखबारी कागज की कुल मांग 5.85 लाख मीट्रिक टन होगी। जबकि 1991–92 में देश में अखबारी कागज के 2.95 लाख मीट्रिक टन उत्पादन का अनुमान है। यह कमी विदेशी मुद्रा की उपलब्धता के अनुसार आयात द्वारा पूरी की जाएगी।

Legislation to amend Prasar Bharati Bill

*91. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SMT. VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward any legislation to amend the Prasar Bharati Bill; and

(b) if so, main modifications proposed to be made and reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUM. GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes Sir, if necessary.

(b) It is not possible at this stage to spell out the details of such amendments. The Government is committed to set up the Prasar Bharati and to introduce competition in the electronic media.

Main Battle Tank Project

*92. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Main Battle Tank Project is nowhere near completion as reported in a newsitem in Sunday Times dated June 16, 1991;

(b) if so, the total amount spent so far on this project; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to expedite the project?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. Main Battle Tank (MBT) Project is in an advanced stage of development. So far twelve prototypes of MBT have been fabricated which are undergoing trials. Orders for six pre-production series tanks have also been placed.

(b) The amount of money spent on the project is Rs. 203.71 crores including the commitments made as on 31 Mar. 1991.

(c) Does not arise, in view of reply to part (a).

Growing sickness in the small scale industries sector

*93. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing sickness in the small scale industries sector in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such units which became sick during the last two years alongwith the reasons for their sickness; and

(c) what are the measures taken to make them economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Data on sickness are compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. Latest data regarding sick small scale industrial units are available up to December 1988. The number of sick small scale industrial units at the end of December 1987; and